

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 01737 011612Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, IS, US
SUBJ: ALLEGED STATE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT RE ISRAEL

REF: STATE 081200

1. VRIJ NEDERLAND ARTICLE IS NOT RPT NOT BY PATRICIA HIGHSMITH.
IT IS LONG INTERVIEW OF HER BY BIBEB, VRIJ NEDERLAND'S ANSWER
TO ORIANA FALLACCI AND SALLY QUINN.
2. PATRICIA HIGHSMITH IS AMERICAN AUTHOR, BORN TEXAS 1921.
CURRENTLY RESIDENT IN MONCOURT, 80 KILOMETERS FROM PARIS.
WRITES DETECTIVE NOVELS MOSTLY: RIPLEY'S GAME, STRANGERS ON A
TRAIN, AND MANY OTHERS.
3. BIBEB WORKS WITH TAPE RECORDER, THEN EDITS FULL PAGE INTERVIEWS
WITH PROMINENT PERSONS OF ALL SORTS. INTERVIEWS USUALLY PRO-
VOCATIVE, FREQUENTLY EMBARRASSING TO SOMEONE.
4. THE COURSE OF THIS DISCURSIVE INTERVIEW WENT LIKE THIS:
HIGHSMITH SAYS THAT SHE BELIEVES PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN FREE COUNTRY
SHOULD EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS ON IMPORTANT ISSUES. SHE PICKS UP

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FILE OF CLIPPINGS AND OTHER MATERIALS ON MIDDLE EAST. SAYS SHE
HAS WRITTEN PRESIDENT CARTER THREE TIMES ON SUBJECT. READS
FROM LETTER DATED JUNE 24, 1977. POSSIBLY READS FROM OTHER
LETTERS AS WELL, BUT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL BECAUSE INTERVIEW
QUOTES HER READING AND SPEAKING IN SAME MANNER. HIGHSMITH WROTE
TO PRESIDENT URGING HIM TO MAINTAIN HIS MIDDLE EAST POLICY,
IS CRITICAL OF QUOTE JEWISH LOBBY UNQUOTE, RAISES LONDON

SUNDAY TIMES ARTICLE OF JUNE 19 ON ISRAELI MISTREATMENT OF ARAB PRISONERS. HIGHSMITH VERY CRITICAL OF BEGIN, U.S. MEDIA COVERAGE OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION.

5. AFTER SEVERAL PARAGRAPHS ABOUT HIGHSMITH'S LETTERS TO PRESIDENT, BIBEB WRITES, QUOTE NO ANSWER FROM CARTER, THAT WASN'T NECESSARY EITHER, BUT THERE WAS ONE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (SIC). HERE, THEY WROTE INTERNAL QUOTE THAT THERE IS MUCH MORE SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE FOR FAIRNESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAN EARLIER. NOTWITHSTANDING THE CONTINUING HYSTERIA OF THE ZIONISTS. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ESPECIALLY GOOD LETTER AND INTERNAL QUOTE END QUOTE.

6. NO ATTRIBUTION TO ANY OFFICIAL. PUNCTUATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF QUOTATION TRANSLATED ABOVE RAISES QUESTION WHETHER HIGHSMITH IS QUOTING DIRECTLY FROM LETTER OR SPEAKING. ASSUME THAT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MEANS STATE DEPARTMENT.

7. HIGHSMITH INTERVIEW SIMILAR TO OTHERS DONE BY BIBEB. LONG CONVERSATION TAPED. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, HIGHSMITH REFERRED TO FILE ON MIDDLE EAST, THRMED THROUGH IT, PICKED OUT LETTER TO PRESIDENT AND READ PART OF IT. BIBEB ASKED IF SHE HAD RECEIVED ANSWER. HIGHSMITH TURNED TO REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT AND READ FROM IT OR COMMENTED ON IT.

8. PARA 5 CONTAINS FULL TRANSLATION OF COMMENTS ON DEPARTMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATEMENT. EMBASSY DID NOT TALK WITH BIBEB.

9. EMBASSY CAN DISCUSS WITH EMBASSY OF ISRAEL TO CLARIFY IF DEPARTMENT WISHES.
BROWN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Message ID: ceef80b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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TAGS: PEPR, IS, US, (HIGHSMITH, PATRICIA), (NEDERLAND, VRIJ)
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